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Senate

NOMINATION OF MICHAEL O. LEAVITT TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I am less familiar with Governor Leavitt's environmental record in Utah than is our colleague Senator Hatch. I have known him for more than a decade. We became Governors together in the same year. We were elected in 1992. We know him. We know his family.

I know him to be a thoughtful, decent, caring human being. He is a good manager and a good leader of his State. He has also been a great leader of our Nation's Governors.

I was privileged to serve as Chair of the National Association of Governors at the time he was Vice Chair. He succeeded me as Chair. He is very bright and surrounds himself with excellent people. But what I like best is he is very good at bringing together people with diverse points of view, trying to build consensus. We need that in a lot of areas in our Nation's Capitol these days, and we especially need it with respect to environmental issues. I look forward to

voting for his nomination and working with him if he is confirmed.

I thank the Senator for yielding.